# ENG 240 American Literature I

# Course Master Syllabus

## Course Information

**Catalog Description:** This course focuses on the works of major authors from the seventeenth through the late nineteenth centuries. Students will also examine significant movements of early American literary history. Authors whose works will be studied include Bradstreet, Wheatley, Irving, Emerson, Hawthorne, Poe, Thoreau, Whitman, Dickinson, and Twain. This course will culminate with an extended evaluation of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.

**Prerequisite(s):** ENG 140 – English Composition I

**Corequisite(s):** None

**Credits:** 3

**Hours:** 3

**Required Text(s):**

**Supplemental Materials:**

## Instructor Information

**Instructor's Name:**

**Contact Information:**

**Office Hours:**

## Program Goals

1. Apply critical thinking and problem-solving skills to interpret and analyze texts.
2. Engage in formal literary analysis by applying critical theories and close reading strategies to deepen the understanding of diverse literary works.
3. Compose well-structured essays that demonstrate analysis, synthesis, integration of scholarly research, and evaluation of texts while adhering to academic writing conventions, including MLA documentation and ethical use of sources.

4. Demonstrate advanced reading and interpretive skills by critically analyzing and evaluating primary and secondary texts.

## Class Core Competencies

The following core competencies are embedded in this curriculum:

- Communicate effectively in both speech and writing
- Use computer systems or other appropriate forms of technology to achieve educational and personal goals
- Analyze works in fields of art, music, or theater, literature, philosophy and/or religious studies, and /or will gain competence in the use of foreign language
- Understand historical events and movements in World, Western, non-Western or American societies and assess their subsequent significance
- Understand ethical issues and situations
- Address an information need by locating, evaluating, and effectively using information.

## Class Learning Assessment

| Student Learning Outcomes | Suggested Means of Assessment |
|---|---|
| Identify major and minor American authors from the seventeenth through the mid-nineteenth century | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |
| Analyze themes indigenous to American literature from the seventeenth century until the mid-nineteenth century | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |
| Apply formal literary criticism and critical thinking skills to gain a more thorough understanding of American literature | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |
| Employ active reading strategies to interpret and evaluate complicated texts | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |

| Student Learning Outcomes | Suggested Means of Assessment |
|---|---|
| Produce a college-level research essay that demonstrates the ability to evaluate, analyze, and synthesize research material using the conventions of the writing process and employing a proper MLA documentation for primary and secondary sources | Literary analysis |
| Demonstrate an appreciation for diverse opinions and perspectives | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |
| Demonstrate critical reading skills, including the ability to analyze, evaluate, and synthesize research materials, through careful examination of texts | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |
| Act ethically and with integrity; demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the boundaries of intellectual property | Class participation, quizzes/exams, literary analysis (essays) |

## Grading System

| Letter Grade | Percentage Range |
|---|---|
| A | 90 to 100 percent |
| B Plus (B+) | 87 to 89.9 percent |
| B | 80 to 86.9 percent |
| C Plus (C+) | 77 to 79.9 percent |
| C | 70 to 76.9 percent |
| D | 60 to 69.9 percent |
| F | Below 60 percent |

## College Information

**Disability Services**
Disability Services Webpage

**Statement and Policy on Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Conduct**
Academic Conduct Policy (Policy 304) [PDF]

Students are required to perform all the work specified by the instructor and are responsible for the content and integrity of all academic work submitted. A violation of academic integrity will occur if a student: (1) knowingly represents work of others as one's own, (2) uses or obtains unauthorized assistance in any academic work, (3) gives fraudulent assistance to another student, or (4) furnishes false information or other misuse of college documents.

Unauthorized use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) is prohibited unless the instructor explicitly permits it in the syllabus or assignments. If tools such as ChatGPT are permitted by an instructor to be used for an assignment, they should be used with caution and with proper citation. In all such cases, you may only use the specific tools identified as acceptable and you must adhere to the College's standards for attribution, validation, and transparency.

In cases of suspected violation of academic integrity, the incident is to be reported to the Office of Academics. A student found guilty of violating the rule of academic integrity by the Vice President of Academics will be considered to have failed in personal obligation to the College; such failure will be subject to disciplinary action by the College. Unless otherwise notified, the instructor will allow students who are pending disciplinary action to attend class.

**Tutoring and Testing at the Instructional Support Center (ISC)**

- Instructional Support Center (ISC) Webpage

**WCCC Library Services**

- WCCC Library Website

**Citation Styles and Formatting**

Work submitted for any Warren County Community College course must conform to the required formatting and citation style that are specified by the instructor. The Library and Instructional Support Center can assist students with formatting and citations for assignments and papers.

**WCCC Attendance Expectations**

The College expects students to attend and participate in all classes. This involves sharing discussions and lectures in class, as well as interacting with other students. Grades are based on the quality of work students complete in meeting the requirements

for a particular course, as stated in the course syllabus and catalog description. Attendance, among other factors, may be an additional criterion for assigning grades. Students should realize that they are responsible for all class meetings and that work missed because of absences may affect their grades. Attendance in online classes is determined by the completion of assignments/ tests. Students who have not completed any assignments or tests will be considered non-attending and receive an NF grade in online classes.

**Class Attendance Expectations**

## Topical Outline

- Shakespeare's life and times
- The Comedies
- The Tragedies
- The Histories
- The Romances

## Grading Methods

| Assignment | Points/Percentage |
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## Class Itinerary

| Week / Unit | Topic | Readings/Assignments |
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| Week / Unit | Topic | Readings/Assignments |
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